

HOW TO DEVELOP A CANDIDATES FORUM

ACQUIRING THE CANDIDATES-invite all, for AAUW is non-partisan

1. Contact your county Board of Elections-in phone book under County-Elections, Board of. They can give you phone numbers for the local Democratic & Republican Committees who will have addresses of those running for office. The BOE will have the dates when all the candidates' names will be available. It helps if you know someone but it is not necessary.
2. Develop questions from AAUW & AAUW NYS Public Policy Action Priorities and local relevant issues from newspapers, political committees, candidates, Town Clerks & others.
3. Ask branch members to choose a candidate to contact, but be sure all candidates are included. These members should send that person the questions, using the addresses found above. Then a follow up with a call or e-mail.

WHAT TO DO IF THERE IS A FEELING ALL CANDIDATES WON'T COME?

HOLD A NON-CANDIDATES FORM

Follow steps 1, 2, 3 above. Ask the branch member who contacts their candidate to report the candidate's answers at the Forum. When the questions are mailed a response is requested. A phone call might eventually be necessary. Candidate should be invited to attend, to be assured that their ideas are correctly stated.

VISIBILITY-press releases, flyers (sample below), use imagination, have AAUW materials available, alert press to the questions and candidates. Coalition with like minded groups.

What Do Candidates for the County Legislature Think About Issues Facing Us Today?

GET IN“FORUM”ED
October 15, 2010 at 6:30PM
West Islip Public Library

Hear All the Candidates' Responses to Questions Concerning The Well-Being of the Women in Our County

The candidates may not be there but their thoughts about vital issues will be.
Nancy Mion, AAUW NYS & Islip Area Public Policy Director